

Message Text

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ACTION EA-13

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4606

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 12029

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, KS

SUBJ: ROK-JAPAN RELATIONS

REF: STATE 203459

1. FOLLOWING IS OUR TRANSLATION OF MEMORANDUM JAPANESE WILL PASS KOREANS AT TIME OF PARK-SHIINA MEETING. TEXT IS THAT OF VERSION AMB YASUKAWA HANDED TO ASST SECRETARY HABIB (REFTEL).

2. "THE LETTER I HAVE JUST PRESENTED WAS WRITTEN IN THE FIRM BELIEF THAT THE FACT THAT JAPAN-ROK RELATIONS ARE IN A MOST PERILOUS SITUATION DUE TO THE RECENT UNFORTUNATE EVENT IS NOT IN THE INTEREST OF EITHER JAPAN OR THE ROK NOR IS IT SOMETHING DESIRED BY THE PEOPLES OF EITHER COUNTRY. THE FOLLOWING IS AN ELUCIDATION OF THIS LETTER BY WAY OF FURTHER AMPLIFICATION.

3. THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN FEELS MORAL RESPONSIBILITY OVER THE FACT THAT THE CRIMINAL ILLEGALLY ACQUIRED A JAPANESE PASSPORT AND OVER THE FACT THAT PREPARATIONS FOR THE INCIDENT INCLUDING THE THEFT OF A PISTOL FROM THE JAPANESE

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POLICE TOOK PLACE IN JAPAN, AND SINCERELY REGRETS THAT THE

INCIDENT OCCURRED.

4. IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT SUCH AN INCIDENT AS THIS SHOOTING MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO HAPPEN AGAIN AND IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN TO DO EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO PREVENT A RECURRENCE OF THIS KIND OF INCIDENT.

5. THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN, IN VIEW OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF THIS INCIDENT, HAS SET UP A STRONG INVESTIGATIVE ORGANIZATION AND HAS BEEN EXERTING ITSELF TO THE UTMOST IN CONDUCTING ITS INVESTIGATION. THE GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO CONTINUE IN COOPERATION WITH THE ROK SIDE TO CONDUCT METICULOUS AND THOROUGHGOING INVESTIGATIONS AND TO STRIVE TO CLARIFY THE FACTS. FURTHER, IT INTENDS TO ACT ON THE RESULTS OF THESE INVESTIGATIONS SO THAT PERSONS WHO HAVE VIOLATED THE LAW WILL BE SEVERELY PUNISHED.

6. WE ARE WELL AWARE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA HAS MADE AN ISSUE OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHOSEN SOREN, AND, AS ALREADY STATED, WE ARE EXERTING OURSELVES TO THE UTMOST IN CONDUCTING OUR INVESTIGATIONS IN JAPAN. OUR DOMESTIC INVESTIGATIONS TO DATE, HOWEVER, HAVE NOT THROWN ANY LIGHT ON ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN THE CHOSEN SOREN AND THE RECENT INCIDENT.

7. AS FOR CRIMINAL ACTS SUCH AS PREPARATION FOR TERRORISTS ACTIONS AGAINST OFFICIALS OF YOUR COUNTRY AND CRIMINAL ACTS CARRIED OUT WITH THE AIM OF OVERTHROWING YOUR COUNTRY'S GOVERNMENT, WE INTEND TO DO EVERYTHING IN OUR POWER TO CONTROL THEM, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT THEY INVOLVE MEMBERS OF SUCH ORGANIZATIONS AS CHOSEN SOREN. MOREOVER, WITH REGARD TO CHOSEN SOREN, IT HAS BEEN, AS YOU KNOWN, AN ORGANIZATION SUBJECT TO INVESTIGATION SINCE IT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1955 UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SUBERSIVE ACTIVITIES PREVENTION LAW.

8. THROUGH THIS AMPLIFICATION, WE HOPE THAT THE REPUBLIC OF KOREAN WILL SUFFICIENTLY UNERSTAND THE INTENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN AND WILL STRIVE ALSO TOWARD THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT ONCE AGAIN ON A FIRM FOUNDATION OF THE CONFIDENTIAL

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RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA WHICH HAVE BEEN AGGRAVATED OVER THE PAST YEAR."
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